

6. (ONCE AMENDED) The method according to claim 5, further comprising:
for each editable attribute of the at least one editable attribute, providing a name portion and a data portion, the name portion being used to identify the editable attribute, the data portion being scrollable horizontally if a graphical representation of the data portion requires more space than a space offered by the display window, the graphical representation of the name portion being stationary.

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

The Examiner objected to the Abstract.

Claims 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by USPN 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al.).

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al.) in view of Microsoft's Internet Explorer 4 as shown by "Mastering Internet Explorer 4's Active Desktop" (Vines).

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al.) in view of Microsoft Explorer 4 as shown by "Tips Windows 95: Mai 1997" (hereinafter TipWorld). Claim 11 was submitted to be taught by Nakajima.

These rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 5 and 6 have been amended.

No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry of the foregoing amendments and new claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 5-11 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is requested.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116:

Applicant(s) request(s) entry of this Rule 116 Response because:

(a) it is believed that the amendment of claims 5-6 puts this application into condition for allowance as suggested by the Examiner;

(b) the amendments were not earlier presented because the Applicants believed in good faith that the cited prior art did not disclose the present invention as previously claimed;

(c) the amendments of claims 5-6 should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added or no new issues are being raised; and

(d) the amendments do not significantly alter the scope of the claims and place the application at least into a better form for purposes of appeal. No new features or new issues are being raised.

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures sets forth in Section 714.12 that "any amendment that would place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered." Moreover, Section 714.13 sets forth that "the Proposed Amendment should be given sufficient consideration to determine whether the claims are in condition for allowance and/or whether the issues on appeal are simplified." The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures further articulates that the reason for any non-entry should be explained expressly in the Advisory Action.

NO CHANGES TO THE ABSTRACT:

The Examiner objected to the square brackets in the Abstract and the use of "TELEPERM® ME." The Abstract has been reviewed in response to this Office Action. No square brackets or "TELEPERM® ME" terminology has been found. Thus, no changes to the Abstract have been made. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the Abstract, as amended by the Preliminary Amendment of May 31, 2000 is enclosed as an attachment that follows the section of this amendment titled "VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

If the Examiner still has concerns about the Abstract, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney Mark Henry at 202-434-1500.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

In the Office Action at pages 3-4, the Examiner rejected claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by USPN 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al., hereinafter Nakajima). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to show the invention more clearly and to correspond more closely to the allowed claims of the corresponding European patent, EP 1 036 352 B1, which has issued.

It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 5 teaches a method for visual display unit-based definition and parameterization of a software interface of a software component of an industrial automation system, wherein the software interface has at least one interface parameter that has at least one editable attribute. Amended independent claim 5 teaches providing a display window which can be divided vertically or horizontally, displaying in a first partial window of the display window a hierarchical structure of the at least one interface parameter of the software component, selecting one interface parameter using a movable cursor, and displaying in a second partial window of the display window a detail display of the selected interface parameter, the detail display including a display of at least one editable attribute of the selected interface parameter and allowing the editable attribute to be defined and parameterized.

In contrast, it is respectfully submitted that Nakajima teaches a data processing system with a video display and an operating system with shell extensions. Nakajima's shell extensions may be used to context menus for objects that are visible within an integrated system name space or may be used to add property sheet pages for such objects. For example, Nakajima may provide a name space extension that includes code for manipulating the non-file system objects. However, Nakajima does not teach providing an interface parameter that has an editable attribute. Thus, Nakajima does not teach or suggest the claimed invention described above.

Since claims 6-11 depend from amended independent claim 5, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6-11 are allowable for at least the reasons that amended claim 5 is allowable.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 5-11 are in a form to be allowed under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and are not anticipated by Nakajima.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

In the Office Action at pages 4-6, the Examiner rejected claims 8, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a):

Claim 8 as being unpatentable over USPN 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al., hereinafter Nakajima) in view of Microsoft's Internet Explorer 4 as shown by "Mastering Internet Explorer 4's Active Desktop" (Vines);

Claim 10 as being unpatentable over USPN 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al., hereinafter Nakajima) in view of Microsoft Explorer 4 as shown by "Tips Windows 95: Mai 1997" (hereinafter TipWorld).

Claim 11 was submitted to be taught by Nakajima.

The rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

As described more fully above, amended claim 5 is deemed to be patentable over Nakajima et al. and teaches providing a display window which can be divided vertically or horizontally, displaying in a first partial window of the display window a hierarchical structure of the at least one interface parameter of the software component, selecting one interface parameter using a movable cursor, and displaying in a second partial window of the display window a detail display of the selected interface parameter, the detail display including a display of at least one editable attribute of the selected interface parameter and allowing the editable attribute to be defined and parameterized. Amended claim 6 teaches that the method of claim 5 further comprises, for each editable attribute of the at least one editable attribute, providing a name portion and a data portion, the name portion being used to identify the editable attribute, the data portion being scrollable horizontally if a graphical representation of the data portion requires more space than a space offered by the display window or the display unit, the graphical representation of the name portion being stationary. Claims 8, 10 and 11 depend from amended claim 6. Thus claims 8, 10 and 11 define a method for visual display unit-based definition and parameterization of a software interface of a software component of an industrial automation system wherein the software interface has at least one interface parameter with at least one editable attribute.

It is respectfully submitted that "Mastering Internet Explorer 4's Active Desktop" teaches an interface for Windows 95 wherein a display shows names of folders, but does not display a hierarchical structure of interface parameters (see Figure 3b) with an editable attribute of a selected interface attribute. While the names of the folders may be edited, the names do not contain an editable attribute of a selected interface parameter that allows the definition and parameterization of the editable attribute, for example, that is scrollable horizontally if a graphical representation of the data portion requires more space than a space offered by the display window, as is taught by the present claimed invention.

Hence, claim 8 is deemed to be allowable over USPN 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al.) in view of Microsoft's Internet Explorer 4 as shown by "Mastering Internet Explorer 4's Active Desktop" (Vines).

Claim 11 was submitted to be taught by Nakajima. Since claim 11 depends from claim 8, claim 11 is deemed to be allowable for at least the reasons that claim 8 is allowable.

Also, "Tips Windows 95: May 1997" teaches arranging options horizontally or vertically, lining up icons, associating files with particular applications, changing the name of a file, changing the resolution, finding files, rebooting, sending a file to a floppy disk, adding applications to a start menu, changing the volume of the speaker, closing related windows together on the screen, sorting columns and changing column widths, hiding columns, working in a DOS view, adding a start up tune, and putting a Windows Explorer shortcut on the desktop, but fails to teach an editable attribute of a selected interface parameter that allows the definition and parameterization of the editable attribute, for example, that is scrollable horizontally if a graphical representation of the data portion requires more space than a space offered by the display window, as is taught by the present claimed invention.

Hence, claim 10 is deemed to be patentable over USPN 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al.) in view of Microsoft Explorer 4 as shown by "Tips Windows 95: Mai 1997" (TipWorld).

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 8, 10 and 11 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) over the cited prior art.

ATTACHMENT

Attached hereto is a "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made," comprising a marked-up version of changes made to the Claims by the current amendment.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

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DOCKET NO. 1454.1037

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any additional fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 5-6, as follows. The remaining claims are reprinted, as a convenience to the Examiner, as they presently stand before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) A method for visual display unit-based definition and [parametrization] parameterization of a software interface of a software component of an industrial automation system, the software interface having at least one interface parameter[s] that has at least one editable attribute, the method comprising:

- providing a display window which can be divided vertically or horizontally;
- displaying in a first partial window of the display window a hierarchical structure of the at least one interface parameter[s] of the software component;
- selecting one [of the] interface parameter[s] using a movable cursor; and
- displaying in a second partial window of the display window a detail display of the selected interface parameter, the detail display including a display of at least one editable attribute of the selected interface parameter and allowing the editable attribute to be defined and parameterized. [the definition and parametrization of the attribute.]

6. (ONCE AMENDED) The method according to claim 5, further comprising:

- for each [one] editable attribute of the at least one editable attribute, providing a name portion and a data portion, the name portion being used to identify [for identifying the one of the at least one] the editable attribute, the data portion being scrollable horizontally if a graphical representation of the data portion requires more space than a space offered by the display window, [or the display unit, a] the graphical representation of the name portion being stationary.

7. The method according to claim 6, further comprising:

- arranging the name portion and the data portion in vertical columns, the vertical columns being arranged side by side.

8. The method according to claim 6, further comprising:

arranging the name portion and the data portion in horizontal rows, the horizontal rows being arranged one below another.

9. The method according to claim 6, further comprising:
dividing the data portion into columns or rows.

10. The method according to claim 7, wherein a sequence of the vertical columns is freely selected and stored by a user.

11. The method according to claim 8, wherein a sequence of the horizontal rows is freely selected and stored by a user.